



**PRESSE-MEDDELELSE • MITTEILUNG AN DIE PRESSE • PRESS-RELEASE • INFORMATION A LA PRESSE**  
**ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΤΥΠΟ • INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA • MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS**  
Brussels, 22 February 1983

SUMMARY OF ADDRESS BY COMMISSIONER RICHARD BURKE AT THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON <sup>1</sup> OF  
THE PARLIAMENTARY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, LONDON 22 FEBRUARY 1983

(The Parliamentary and Scientific Committee is an unofficial group of members of both Houses of Parliament and British Members of the European Parliament and Representatives of certain scientific and technical institutions and some science-based companies).

EUROPE'S NEEDS

It has become increasingly clear that the scale and orientation of the Community's research and development programs are no longer adequate to Europe's needs, said Commissioner Richard BURKE.

It is not good enough for the Community's program in any field to be just another program - an eleventh Member State, you might say. Rather, our aim is that, in the fields where Member States are also active, the Community program should seek to act as a catalyst to bring Member States' activities into a more rewarding cooperation or Federation.

FRAMEWORK PROGRAM

The Commission has now defined, in consultation with the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers, the main policy thrusts which our research and development should serve. This is the Framework Program for 1984-87.

The program proposes a significant increase in the Community's research and development activities - almost by a factor of two over the next five years. It suggests priority research objectives:

- promoting industrial competitiveness
- improving management of energy resources and economy of use
- promoting competitiveness in agriculture and fisheries
- improving husbandry of raw
- strengthening support to r countries for the developing
- improving living and working conditions
- stimulating measures to increase the effectiveness of the use of Community talents in basic research.

### POOR COMPARISON WITH USA AND JAPAN

With more than one million scientists and technicians and public expenditure on research in the region of 26.5 billion Dollars, Europe's civilian R & D capacity is about three quarters of the USA's and twice that of Japan. Why is Europe so poor, in comparison with the USA and Japan, at utilising research results and adopting them in terms of innovation, economic and social progress ?

The European disease is a dangerous tendency towards introversion bound up with growing intervention by the public authorities in their national economies. A cure must be found for this disease.

### EUROPEAN RESPONSE

The Commission believes that the response to these problems must include a coherent set of measures which will :

- encourage the success of small and medium-sized enterprises
- stimulate investment in new technologies and in activities associated with Community priorities such as environment, energy and research
- make the potential scale of the European internal market more effective as a base for European companies
- encourage more dynamic interaction between "leading-edge" customers and European developers of new technology products.